

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph at page 19, line 7 to page 20, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

By the way, the grip cover section 11 ~~is a pretty length part having~~ has a prevailing length on the casing of the manipulating head assembly 1. Therefore, when it is gripped by an operator to manipulate various operating means on the manipulating head assembly 1, the grip cover section 11 can be twisted by application of a twisting force which occurs as a result of manipulation of the endoscope. More specifically, the flexible light guide cable 3 is led out from the main cover section 11 which is connected to the proximal end of the grip cover section 11. On the other hand, the insertion tube 2 of the endoscope, which is connected with the passage-forming structural members, is extended out from the fore end of the grip cover section 11. Therefore, if the grip cover section 11 is twisted, it tends to rotate relative to the main cover section 10 or relative to the insertion tube 2. Since the grip cover section 11 is reduced in wall thickness, it can be deformed or damaged by application of twisting forces.